Field Notes Chemetco Site Visit 05.17-18.10 06.18.10



Purpose of site visit May 17-18, 2010, was to consult with Kevin Turner, OSC, for a removal assessment, discuss details of improving site security with the Estate, and take some pH and XRF measurements around Estate lands.

5/17 at 9 am met Kevin Turner who was accompanied by Tom Binz. Very stormy weather the weekend before, so the site was flooded Monday AM. We walked the site and discussed immediate risks posed to trespassers (lack of security), unstable structures (need for demolition), uncharacterized drums/liquids (need for proper disposal), and storm water runoff moving off site. Discussed lead roles, funding situation, and addressing as many threats as possible through demolition work as the Estate's plan proposes and eventually the storm water issue via PRP or EPA action. Tom B. is a subcontractor of Weston who does oversight at the Hartford Gasoline site that Kevin manages. No removal action will be undertaken at this time because the Estate and IAD are voluntarily addressing some of the risks posed by the site via the demolition plan, which was conditionally approved by ILEPA on 6/15/10. After the site tour we went to lunch and back to EPA's trailer at the Hartford Gasoline site, continuing to discuss Chemetco site and strategies. Kevin left in early afternoon and I got oriented to trailer with Tom and toured the HG site with him. Went back to Chemetco that night to observe the site at night and with the lights on—driving around the area seeing whats what (residences, land use, etc.).

5/18 at 8:45 am met with Estate (Gary Davis, Eric Watt, Judy, Steve Zuber, Elliot Steign) on specifics of improving security. We went over the letter I sent focusing on 3 issues: signage, fencing, lighting and what the Estate was able to do immediately on those issues. (Securitas hired, extra motion detectors, fixing fencing, choosing signage. See weekly status sheets for progress.) Elliott outlined increased site security measures that would come with beginning demolition. I made clear regardless of demolition progress/approval, the site needed to be better-secured. Also spent time after this issue was discussed going over the Superfund process and next steps for the site. Steve and Elliott shared more about their plans for future reuse of the site, which is heavy industrial. Met Mike Dixon, who IAD just hired as onsite compliance manager. (Mike ended up taking another position about 2 weeks after this meeting.) After lunch Gary, Mike, and I went south on the Estate and sampled the tributary of Long Lake for pH and a couple spots with the XRF. Saw the old residences built by Mr. Feron that burned down. Sampled storm water basin, outfall, and cornfield.

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